



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Study: Canadian Persian Gulf cohort

2005

A summary of a new report on the incidence of mortality and cancer among Canadian military personnel of the Gulf and Kuwait war is now available.

The summary is based on a detailed historical study of mortality rates and cancer incidence among veterans who were deployed to the Persian Gulf between August 1990 and October 1991. The health of these veterans was compared with a group of members of the military who were eligible for deployment, but who were not sent to the gulf. In this study, the term "veterans" refers to retired and currently serving members of the Canadian military.

The study also compares rates of mortality and cancer incidence in both groups of military personnel with rates in the general population.

Canadian veterans of the Gulf and Kuwait War did not appear to be at increased risk of either dying or developing cancer in the nine years following the end of the hostilities. These results were consistent with those of other larger studies on the health of Gulf War veterans of other countries.

Note: Statistics Canada's primary role in this study was to link the Gulf and Kuwait War veterans' demographic information and that of other Canadian military personnel to its Mortality and Cancer Incidence Databases.

A copy of *Canadian Persian Gulf Cohort Study: Summary Report* (82-580-XIE, free) is now available online. From *Our Products and services page*, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Health*.

To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of the report, please contact Marie P. Beaudet (613-951-7025), Health Statistics Division. For comment on the report or to obtain a copy of the full report, contact the Media Liaison office (613-996-2353 or 613-996-2354), Department of National Defence, Canadian Forces. ■

Survey of Intellectual Property Commercialization in the Higher Education Sector

2003

Canadian universities have made important strides in commercializing their research and inventions.

Revised data from the Survey of Intellectual Property Commercialization in the Higher Education

Sector show that the number of patents is on the rise and universities and hospitals are creating more spin-off companies to commercialize their technologies.

Between 2001 and 2003, the number of inventions reported or disclosed by researchers to universities and hospitals increased from 1,105 to 1,133.

The number of patent applications filed by these institutions also increased from 932 to 1,252 and the total number of patents held rose from 2,133 to 3,047.

Between 2001 and 2003, income from intellectual property rose from \$52.5 million to \$55.5 million. About 44% was paid out to administrative units in the reporting institution, while 38% went to inventors and co-inventors.

In 2002 and 2003, Canadian universities and hospitals created 64 spin-off companies to commercialize their technologies. This brought the total created to date to 876.

The spin-offs cover a wide range of industries, for example, research and development, computer systems design, engineering and medical devices manufacturing.

At the end of 2003, 13 institutions held \$52.4 million in equity in publicly traded spin-off companies. In 2003, 11 institutions also helped their spin-offs to raise \$54.6 million in venture capital and other forms of investment.

Regionally, there were wide variations in commercialization of intellectual property. Universities and hospitals in British Columbia received 11% of total sponsored research funding for the higher education sector, but accounted for 19% of inventions disclosed and 25% of spin-off companies created to date.

Prairie institutions also had above average results. They obtained 17% of sponsored research funding but earned a disproportionate 22% of income from intellectual property. They also accounted for 20% of inventions disclosed and 18% of spin-off companies created to date.

In contrast, Ontario institutions received 38% of total research funding but accounted for a lesser proportion of most of the major indicators of intellectual property commercialization, including 26% of income from intellectual property and 36% of both inventions disclosed and spin-off companies created to date.

Quebec institutions obtained 30% of sponsored research funding and accounted for 30% of inventions protected. However, on most indicators, Quebec had a lower result, including 21% of inventions disclosed and only 14% of spin-off companies created to date.

In recent years, Atlantic institutions have become more active in intellectual property commercialization. They obtained 4% of sponsored research funding and

accounted for 4% of inventions disclosed and 7% of spin-off companies. However, they lagged in both income from intellectual property and total patents held.

In the farthest regions of the country, there may be more of a tendency to spin off companies than to license technologies to established companies. This may explain some of the regional differences in intellectual property commercialization outcomes.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4222.

The report *Survey of Intellectual Property Commercialization in the Higher Education Sector* (88F0006XIE2005018, free) is now available online. From *Our products and services page*, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Science and technology*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Cathy Read (613-951-3838; fax: 613-951-9920; cathy.read@statcan.ca), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

For-hire motor carriers of freight, all carriers

Second quarter 2005

There were an estimated 3,333 for-hire trucking companies based in Canada with annual revenues of \$1 million or more in the second quarter of 2005, up 4.6% from the same quarter last year.

The operating revenues totalled \$6.56 billion, up 4.0% from the second quarter of 2004, while operating expenses reached \$6.01 billion, up 3.3% from the same period in 2004. Higher operating expenses were mainly driven by marked increases in fuel (+16%) and maintenance (+13%) costs.

Average operating revenues and expenses per carrier were slightly lower than those reported during the second quarter of 2004. Average operating revenues were \$1.97 million, down from \$1.98 million. Average expenses were \$1.80 million, down from \$1.83 million. The operating ratio (operating expenses divided by operating revenues) was unchanged at 0.92.

For-hire trucking transportation revenues from domestic movements increased by 8.9% to \$4.21 billion from \$3.87 billion during the same period in 2004. In contrast, revenues from international movements decreased to \$2.08 billion from \$2.23 billion, down 6.8%.

Revisions to the second and third quarter for 2004 are now available on CANSIM. There have been changes to the estimates for these quarters.

Available on CANSIM: table 403-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2748.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ron Chrétien (613-951-8774; fax: 613-951-0009; ron.chretien@statcan.ca) or Denis Pilon (613-951-2707; fax: 613-951-0579; denis.pilon@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

New products

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes, November 2005
Catalogue number 62-013-XIE
(free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Canadian Persian Gulf Cohort Study: Summary Report
Catalogue number 82-580-XIE
(free).

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc.

Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division Working Papers: Survey of Intellectual Property Commercialization in the Higher Education Sector, 2003, no. 18
Catalogue number 88F0006XIE2005018
(free).

How to order products

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Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Catalogue 11-001-XIE (F) (single) 11-001-XIE(1) 1997-03-01

The Daily
Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 9:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

• Urban transit, 1995 Despite the problems of taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, about 1.4 billion trips were taken on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the last 25 years.	2
• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	4

OTHER RELEASES

• High-waged Index, May 1997	3
• Short-term Expectations Survey	9
• Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	12
• Egg production, April 1997	13

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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Statistics Canada / Statistique Canada

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to lstproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

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